

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-58 and 60-74 are now pending in this application, with claims 1, 3, 29, 58, and 67 being independent.

By this amendment, claim 59 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1-28, 30-57 and 60-73 have been amended, and new claim 74 has been added. Applicant has also amended the specification. The changes to the claims and to the specification, and the new claim, are supported by the original application, as filed. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

Applicant notes that claims 29 and 58 are allowed and that claims 1-28, 30-57, 60-66, and 68-73 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicant has amended claims 1-28, 30-57, 60-66, and 68-73 herein.

The drawings stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) for failing to include reference numeral 810, and under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4) because reference numeral 1106 was used to designate both a platen and a stationary surface. By separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicant submits a Replacement Sheet containing a revised Figure 8, which includes reference numeral 810. In addition, Applicant has amended the specification to correlate only the platen with reference numeral 1106.

Claims 59 and 71 stand objected to as being of improper dependent form and claim 57 stands objected to for containing a misspelling. Claim 59 has been canceled herein. Claims 57 and 71 have been amended to obviate the objections.

Claims 1-28, 30-57, and 59-73 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant traverses this rejection inasmuch as the claims, as filed, would be readily understood by one of ordinary skill in the art. Nevertheless, and solely to

advance prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1-28, 30-57, and 60-73 to attend to the Examiner's comments, as set forth on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action. Applicant notes, however, that claims 22 and 27 have not been amended to recite "a surface to be cleaned," because these claims both ultimately depend from claim 3, which provides proper antecedent basis for this recitation. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is earnestly solicited.

With regard to the art rejections, claim 67 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,083,075 to Hester, and also as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,092,699 to Silvenis. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

As now amended, independent claim 67 recites a cartridge including a supply reel, a take-up reel, a cleaning ribbon, and means for detachably securing the cartridge to the cleaning apparatus. The cleaning ribbon extends between the supply reel and the take-up reel, with a length of the cleaning ribbon between the supply reel and the take-up reel disposed for cleaning a surface to be cleaned, when in use. The cleaning ribbon is configured to form a particle trap between the length of the cleaning ribbon for cleaning the surface to be cleaned and the take-up reel, before the cleaning ribbon is collected by the take-up reel.

The cited references do not teach or suggest at least that a cleaning ribbon forms a particle trap between a length of the cleaning ribbon for cleaning a surface to be cleaned and the take-up reel, before the cleaning ribbon is collected by the take-up reel.

The Hester patent relates to a lint pickup device including a hollow housing 11 and a tape cartridge 12. The tape cartridge 12 consists of a supply reel 27 for supplying a tape 32 and a take-up reel 28 for collecting the tape 32. The Silvenis patent relates to floor cleaning using index fabric rolls in removable cassettes. That patent discloses a cassette 18 having a dispensing roller 26 that dispenses a fabric 24 and a collecting roller 30 for collecting the fabric 24. However, neither the Hester patent, nor the Silvenis patent, teach or suggest that a cleaning

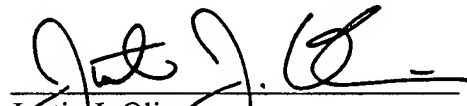
ribbon, between a supply reel and a take-up reel, forms a particle trap between a length of the cleaning ribbon for cleaning a surface to be cleaned and the take-up reel, before the cleaning ribbon is collected by the take-up reel.

Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and early passage to issue are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address given below for S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,


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